

City of Flagstaff

News Release

July 5, 2013

For Immediate Release

Gaillard Selected as Chief of the Flagstaff Fire Department

Following an extensive review and interview process, City Manager Kevin Burke and Deputy City Manager Josh Copley have announced that Mark Gaillard has been selected to serve as the next Chief of the Flagstaff Fire Department. Gaillard will replace Mike Jacona who has announced his retirement.

Gaillard has been the Fire Chief for the City of Goodyear since 1986 where he oversaw its transition from a small 18 member volunteer department to the full service department of 101 employees that it is today. Gaillard officially retired from the Goodyear Fire Department this week.

Gaillard also served as an Interim Deputy City Manager/Fire Chief for the City of Goodyear from 2009 to 2011. He was responsible the oversight of the Fire, Police, Public Works, Engineering and Community Development departments.

He earned his Master of Science and Technology degree from Arizona State University and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Management from the University of Phoenix.

Gaillard has also served on numerous organizations including a term as President of the Arizona Fire Chief's Association and an appointment by the Governor to serve on the Arizona State Fire Safety Committee from 2005 to 2007.

These years of service, education and leadership have prepared Gaillard for the opportunity to work for the City of Flagstaff. "I am ecstatic to be a part of this community and the Flagstaff Fire Department and I am ready to get my feet on the ground and get to work", Gaillard said

The City of Flagstaff conducted an extensive national search for the Fire Chief position. More than 70 applications were received, phone interviews were conducted with 15 candidates, and last week the top 4 candidates participated in in-person interviews and assessments.

Gaillard consistently performed with high ratings throughout 6 different assessment centers involving community members, fire personnel, City staff and leadership. More than 70 people provided input into the Fire Chief selection process.

Gaillard's work history and accomplishments were reviewed in great detail including another interview regarding the feedback received during the assessment process and additional reference checks. This

included a thorough vetting of a performance audit conducted on the Goodyear Fire Department with Gaillard, the Goodyear Fire Union, his supervisors and peers.

City Manager Kevin Burke stated, "We are very excited to have someone of Chief Gaillard's qualifications and background join the City. He brings a needed new energy and direction to the department."

Gaillard and the City of Flagstaff are currently in negotiations over terms of his employment.

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